



STATE OF WASHINGTON
COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS
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Press Release

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July 9, 2004 Commission Meeting

The WA State Commission on African American Affairs will hold a public meeting in Vancouver on Friday, July 9, 2004 from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM at the Clark College, Gaiser Dining Room 1800 E. McLoughlin Blvd. Vancouver, WA. The theme for the Vancouver meeting is African American and the Criminal Justice System. City and County Administrators will discuss their efforts to recruit and retain a diverse workforce. Local Law Enforcement officials will discuss their efforts to diversify and local attorney's have been asked to discuss what can be done to make the judicial system more responsive to African Americans and other people of color

The Commission meets six times a year to listen to and report on issues impacting the African American community. Presentations will be made on issues important to the community. Time is available for anyone from the public to speak to the Commission. As a general rule, anyone can take 3 to 5 minutes to make a presentation to the Commission.

The Commission encourages all to attend the meeting, whether to make a presentation, to learn more about how the Commission works, or to gain a better understanding of the issues impacting African Americans in the Southwest region of Washington State.

"Vancouver's Community Leaders are excited about the Commission on African American Affairs' return to Vancouver. The City and County leaders are poised to lend their support in making this a meeting that will be mutually beneficial," said Southwest Washington Commissioner, Earl Ford.

Confirmed guests include:

1. Vancouver Mayor- Royce Pollard
2. County Commissioner- Betty Sue Morris
3. President of Clark College- Dr. Wayne Branch
4. Washington State Dept. of Ecology- Joy St Germain
5. City Manager- Pat McDonnell
6. County Administrator-County Representative
7. Attorney- Lou Byrd
8. Attorney-Claudia Haywood
9. Attorney-Peter Fels
10. County Sheriff- Jackie Bettis
11. Vancouver Police Chief- Brian Martinek
12. Washington State Patrol-Steven Jewell

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